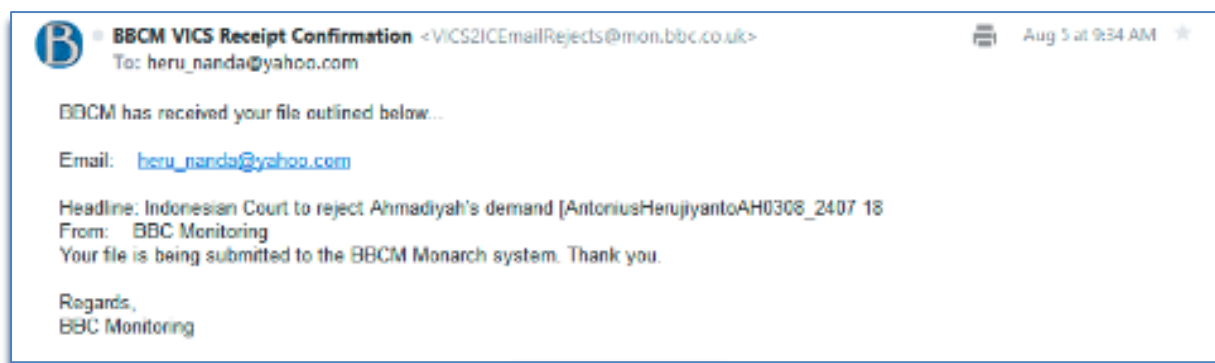




Indonesian Court To Reject Ahmadiyah's Demand



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH0308_240718]

The Indonesian Constitutional Court or MK has issued a decree on refusing the judicial review on Articles 1, 2, and 3 of the Law No.1/PNPS/1965. The articles deal with preventing making wrong use and/ or religious blasphemy. The review was filed by the followers of the Indonesian Ahmadiyah Congregation (JAI). The verdict was read at MK building on Monday (23 July).

[The Ahmadiyah or JAI is a sect deemed deviant by many Muslims for its divergent view on Islamic prophets.]

DDII or the [radical] Indonesian Islamic Da'wah Council is the main Islamic Community organization challenging the judicial review filed by JAI. The MK's verdict is, therefore, DDII's victory.

According to DDII's lawyer, Ahmad Leksono, one of the most important reasons that MK has come up with such a verdict is that there are only certain individuals who are entitled to interpret Islamic teachings.

The second reason is that not anyone is allowed to interpret the norms of Islamic teachings freely. The last one deals with admitting that the very norms are in line with those internal and external factors which have been taking place in Indonesia.

Mentioning that JAI's demands have been appropriately refused, Ahmad hoped that not only would the MK's verdict maintain the stability of Indonesia as a state, but it would also guard the religious stability and take care of the existing stability of the Indonesian social community.

Ahmad Leksono also said that Articles 1, 2, and 3 of the Law No.1/PNPS/1965 were not the smuggled laws since, as MK had firmly stated, that the so-called freedom or liberty has already been long arranged or determined within in the norms of the Indonesian Laws.

According to him, the verdict has confirmed about the active role of the state in making sure that the very freedom is in accordance to the existing norms in Indonesia.

In the meantime, MK clarified that JAI should have filed a judicial review on the religious decrees which were based on the Law No.1/PNPS/1965, such as SKB or the joint ministerial decree banning Ahmadis from proselytizing, and those of Perda or bylaws.

Source: Ameerah, [arrahmah/2018/07/24/mk-tolak-gugatan-penganut-ahmadiyah/](https://arrahmah.com/2018/07/24/mk-tolak-gugatan-penganut-ahmadiyah/), "MK Tolak Gugatan Penganut Ahmadiyah (Constitutional Court's verdict to refuse *Ahmadiyah's demand to band the law on religious blasphemy*)", in *Indonesian*, 24 July 18.

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